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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 162553

45
ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-11 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 OC-06 PRS-01 RSC-01 SS-15 USIE-00

USSS-00 SY-10 FAA-00 AF-10 /106 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:DAKORN:JFC
22670 8/17/73
APPROVED BY NEA - MR. SISCO
---------- 104186
O 161637Z AUG 73 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 162553

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, LE, IS
SUBJECT: HIJACKED MEA AIRLINER

1. ASST. SECY. SISCO CALLED AMBASSADOR KABBANI MID MORNING AUGUST 16 RE WIRE SERVICE REPORT OF HIJACKING OF MEA PLANE ENROUTE FROM BENGHAZI TO BEIRUT. SISCO SAID HE HAD JUST TALKED TO ISRAELI AMBASSADOR DINITZ WHO HAD GIVEN HIM INFORMATION JUST RECEIVED FROM JERUSALEM ON HIJACKING. AT SISCO'S REQUEST DINITZ HAD AGREED TO PASSING INFO TO KABBANI. SISCO SAID DINITZ TOLD HIM MEA PLANE IS NOW ON GROUND AT LOD AIRPORT. WHILE PLANE WAS OVER CYPRUS ISRAELIS GOT MESSAGE FROM CAPTAIN THAT TWO TERRORISTS WERE ON BOARD AND WERE THREATENING TO BLOW UP PLANE IF IT DID NOT LAND IN ISRAEL. ISRAELIS GAVE CAPTAIN PERMISSION TO LAND. THEY THINK TERRORISTS ARE ARABS BUT ARE NOT CERTAIN.

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PAGE 02 STATE 162553

2. SISCO SAID THIS WAS ALL THE INFORMATION HE HAD AT

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THIS POINT BUT WOULD KEEP IN TOUCH WITH KABBANI AS SITUATION
DEVELOPED.

3. SUBSEQUENTLY DINITZ CALLED ATHERTON TO REPORT THAT ALL
116 PASSENGERS HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM THE PLANE AND
THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE GOING ON WITH THE HIJACKER.

ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS THE HIJACKER MAY BE
REQUESTING POLITICAL ASYLUM. ROGERS

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL ASYLUM, AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, PARAMILITARY FORCES, PASSENGERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE162553
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DAKORN:JFC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS SISCO
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730833/aaaaayhm.tel
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Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
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Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HIJACKED MEA AIRLINER
TAGS: PINS, LE, IS
To: BEIRUT
Type: TE
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